MARVEL

1

SCHULTZ
VECCHIO
CURIEL

BLACK WIDOW

VENOMOUS

RATED T+

IN MEMORIAM

RAY CHAN

PRODUCTION DESIGNER

DECEMBER 1, 1967 — APRIL 23, 2024

Marvel is incredibly saddened by the loss of Ray Chan, longtime Marvel filmmaker and friend, who passed away in April.

Ray was an incredible production designer who helped imagine and design the Marvel Cinematic Universe. From Xandar to the Sanctum Sanctorum, Ray brought distinct, lived-in worlds to the screen, spanning the far reaches of space to a Louisiana fishing boat. He was also a wonderful friend and colleague who will be dearly missed by everyone who had the privilege of working with him.

"Ray was first and foremost a good friend to everyone at Marvel Studios. He was a talented collaborator who brought creativity and attention to detail to every frame of every movie he worked on and who was able to bring out the best in each department he worked with," said Marvel Studios' Kevin Feige and Louis D'Esposito. "He was the nicest human being and was such a pleasure to work with, hugely generous and the kind of person who could take the seed of an idea and turn it into something beautiful. We are devastated by his passing. He will be missed by everyone at Marvel, and our sincerest condolences go out to his family and friends."

Ray first joined Marvel Studios on *Thor: The Dark World* as Supervising Art Director and went on to be Supervising Art Director on many other Marvel films, including *Guardians of the Galaxy*, *Avengers: Age of Ultron*, *Doctor Strange*, *Avengers: Infinity War* and *Avengers: Endgame*. He was also an Art Director on *Spider-Man: Far From Home*, as well as Production Designer on *The Falcon and The Winter Soldier*, *Deadpool & Wolverine* and Additional Photography on *Ant-Man and The Wasp: Quantumania*.

Ray is survived by his wife, Lindsay, and their children Caspar and Sebastian.

IT'S FUNNY...

...WHEN I LOOK BACK ON MY LIFE...

ALCHEMAX

...HOW I GOT HERE...

SQUISH

...I SOMETIMES FORGET ALL I HAD TO ENDURE.

FREAKING HATE SPIDERS.

WHAT THE--?

AT LEAST *HE* WON'T FORGET.

BLACK WIDOW!

-CHOKE-

BLACK WIDOW

VENOMOUS

Natasha Romanoff was trained from childhood as an assassin and spy for the Russian government's Red Room. Disillusioned with this life, Romanoff eventually defected to the United States, where she's put her deadly skills to use in the service of S.H.I.E.L.D., the Avengers, and others. Recently, Nat bonded with a young symbiote, which granted her new and uncanny abilities in addition to her formidably deadly skills. But the bond is new and still being tested...

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LETTERER

LEIRIX
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PRODUCTION DESIGN

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EDITOR IN CHIEF

C'MON. WE NEED TO HURRY THIS UP.

THEY ONLY HAVE A VULNERABILITY ONCE A MONTH DURING THE *SHIFT CHANGE.*

WE ARE WORKING ON--

WE SEE...

NO...

LET'S SEE WHAT THIS *NEW* FORMULATION DOES TO THIS SYMBIOTE SAMPLE...

WHAT ARE THEY DOING TO US...?

IT HURTSSS...

C'MON, SYMBIOTE... CHOP-CHOP, WE'RE ABOUT TO BE **SHOT** AT.

HEY! WHERE DO YOU THINK YOU'RE GOING?!

WE ARE SORRY, NATASHA...

LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE ON YOUR OWN.

KRAK

KRIK

FINE BY ME.

NATASHA ROMANOFF'S SAFE HOUSE #115. LATER.

I SHOULDN'T BE UPSET WITH THEM.

I CAN'T EXPECT THE SYMBIOTE TO DO WHAT I DO...

...TO BE SO... REMOVED FROM EVERYTHING.

I KNOW YOU'RE HERE.

COME ON OUT.

YOU ARE ANGRY, NATASHA.

I'M NOT ANGRY...

...I JUST NEED TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT TONIGHT.

YOU KIND OF LEFT ME UP A CREEK, Y'KNOW.

WE ARE SORRY.

ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

"THE GUARDS WERE NO PROBLEM.

"BUT THAT OTHER THING...

"THAT SYMBIOTECH...

"...A FREAK OF ALCHEMAX SCIENCE!

WHAM

"...THAT DID STING A BIT.

"AND I WASN'T ABLE TO FINISH THE MISSION."

REGARDLESS, MY *HANDLING* THE SITUATION DOESN'T *EXCUSE* THE FACT THAT YOU ABANDONED ME. *WHY?*

DO YOU KNOW WHAT THEY *HAVE* IN THAT PLACE?

I HAVE AN INKLING.

ALCHEMAX HAS DONE *HORRIBLE* THINGS TO OUR KIND.

WHEN WE TOUCHED THE GUARD, WE SAW HIS *ENJOYMENT* IN WATCHING A SYMBIOTE DIE.

WE WERE *BURNED* FROM THE INSIDE OUT.

SO THEY *DO* HAVE K43--OR SOMETHING *LIKE* IT--IN THERE.

THAT MAKES THIS MISSION EVEN *MORE* IMPORTANT NOW.

IT'S *OKAY* TO BE SCARED.

BUT IF WE'RE *WORKING* TOGETHER, YOU HAVE TO BE AN *ASSET.*

WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?

YOU NEED TRAINING--*REAL* TRAINING--LIKE *I* HAD.

YOU NEED *THE RED ROOM.*

WE CAN ACCESS YOUR MEMORIES AND *LEARN* FROM--

IT'S *NOT* THE SAME. IT NEEDS TO BE *MUSCLE MEMORY...* SECOND NATURE.

YOU *PASS* MY TESTS...

...YOU CAN STICK AROUND.

IF YOU *DON'T...*

...FIND A *NEW HOST.*

THE RED ROOM BROKE MORE THAN IT GRADUATED.

IT HARDENED US...FORGED US IN FIRE...

...LIKE STEEL.

I WAS SO YOUNG THEN.

AND SHE SO--

WHERE ARE WE, NATASHA?

THESE ARE MY MEMORIES OF THE RED ROOM. THIS IS WHERE YOU'LL TRAIN.

LESSON ONE.

ANTICIPATE YOUR OPPONENT'S MOVES.

THAT IS *EASY.* WE CAN--

WHY CAN WE NOT HEAR YOUR *THOUGHTS?*

WHY--?

I'VE TRAINED FOR *YEARS* TO PROTECT MY MIND FROM TELEPATHS AND OTHER *PSYCHIC ASSAULTS.*

I GUESS IT WORKS ON *YOU* TOO.

NOW... *AGAIN.*

AGAIN.

AGAIN.

AGAIN.

СНОВА.

СНОВА.

WHAM

НЕУТЕШИТЕЛЬНЫЙ!

WHOM

STOP!

IT'S FUNNY...

...I FORGOT THAT TRAINING DIDN'T *HAVE* TO BE LIKE THIS.

I CAN DO *BETTER.*

I *WILL* DO BETTER.

IS IT *DONE?* HAVE WE *PASSED?*

NOT *YET.* I'M SORRY.

YOU *STILL* HAVE A LOT TO LEARN, BUT...NOT THE WAY I HAD TO.

THE RED ROOM ISN'T THE ONLY TRAINING I REMEMBER.

I ALSO HAVE THE FRIENDS WHO HAVE HELPED ME OVER THE YEARS.

YOU *SURE* ABOUT THIS, NATASHA?

SPIDER-WOMAN: JESSICA DREW

HAWKEYE: CLINT BARTON

THEY CAN HANDLE IT.

THE REVOLUTION: BUCKY BARNES

THE MAN: NICK FURY

CHEESE: AGENT PHIL COULSON

SO... WHO'S UP *FIRST?*

THIS SYMBIOTE'S CONFIDENCE COMES FROM THEM RELYING ON *MY* ABILITIES.

WE HAVE YOU!

BUT CONFIDENCE CAN *ALSO* GET YOU *KILLED.*

DON'T BE *SO* SURE.

SLICE

AND I WON'T *ALWAYS* BE AROUND.

C'MON... WE CAN DO THIS ALL DAY.

I'VE LEARNED SO MUCH FROM FURY OVER THE YEARS.

BEST ADVICE I CAN GIVE...

...IS TO KEEP BOTH EYES OPEN AT ALL TIMES.

EW...

HE CAN BE A BIT INTENSE THOUGH.

DON'T TRUST ANYONE, OR YOU COULD LOSE AN EYE TOO.

OR YOUR EX-WIFE COULD TRY TO KILL YOU.

AND ANY ONE OF YOU COULD BE A SKRULL.

ARE YOU WRITING THIS DOWN?

YES...?

NEVER PUT ANYTHING IN WRITING!

SNAK

JESS IS GOOD FOR THIS.

SHE'LL TELL THE SYMBIOTE WHAT'S WHAT.

YOU'VE GOTTA BE FLEXIBLE.

SEE?

LIKE THIS?

THAT'D BE FINE WHEN YOU'RE ON YOUR OWN, BUT HUMANS CAN'T MOVE LIKE THAT...

...UNLESS YOU'RE BONDED TO MS. MARVEL OR MR. FANTASTIC.

IT'S NOT SO MUCH THAT THIS IS WHO MY FRIENDS AND COLLEAGUES *ARE*...

PTANG

...BUT IT'S HOW *I* SEE THEM.

EXCEPT CLINT...

...CLINT *REALLY IS* THAT ARROGANT.

IS THAT ALL?

WAIT FOR IT...

BOOMERANG ARROW

TWAK

BOOMERANG... RESPECT IT.

WHAT WILL YOU TEACH US?

HOW TO BE *UNASSUMING.*

ONE OF THE BEST ADVANTAGES OF LOOKING *NORMAL* IS THAT I CAN *BLEND IN.*

MOST PEOPLE THINK OF *JAMES BOND* WHEN THINKING ABOUT SPIES.

HE'S *WAY* TOO FLASHY.

THE MORE HUMBLE--EVEN *MEEK*--YOU ARE, THE MORE PEOPLE WILL UNDERESTIMATE YOU.

AND BEING *UNDERESTIMATED* GIVES YOU AN EDGE.

YOU CAN BE A *FLY* ON THE WALL...

LIKE *THIS?*

GAH! I HATE SPIDERS.

YES, WE HEAR THAT *A LOT.*

BYE, NATASHA!

OKAY...

ARE WE TRAINED ENOUGH NOW?

THERE'S ONE MORE TEST.

HOW DID YOU LIKE YOUR TUTORS?

DO NOT SPEAK. WE ARE CONCENTRATING.

YOU HAVE TO LEARN TO DEAL WITH DISTRACTIONS.

FIGHTS ARE CHAOS.

YOU CAN'T LOSE YOUR TARGET IN THE FRAY.

AND IF YOU EVER FIGHT SPIDER-MAN, TRUST ME, HE NEVER SHUTS UP.

THAT REMINDS ME... HAVE YOU CHOSEN A NAME YET?

WE ARE WIDOW.

WE ARE WIDOW, BUT WHO ARE YOU?

...

GIVE IT A THINK.

NOW LET'S GET THIS *OUTFIT* SORTED OUT.

THIS'LL WORK *GREAT.*

HERE WE GO AGAIN.

HUH?

UH-OH.

BUT *THIS TIME*, I THINK IT'LL WORK OUT BETTER.

NICE LANDING, SLIVER.

THANK YOU, NATASHA.

THIS IS THE ONE WHO GAVE ME TROUBLE.

ROWAR!

WE CAN TAKE HIM.

FZZT

WHUP WHUP WHUP WHUP WHUP WHUP

THERE'S A BREACH!

YOU'RE NOT GOING ANYWHERE.

THEY ARE OURS!

WHERE DO YOU KEEP WHAT KILLS OUR KIND?

SLIVER, STAND DOWN!

WHERE'S THE SERUM THAT KILLS THE SYMBIOTES?

TH-THERE.

STAY ON MISSION, SLIVER.

SHE COULD KNOW MORE.

I SAID TO LET HER GO.

I KNOW YOU WANT REVENGE, BUT THIS IS A LONG GAME.

ONE LAB TECH ISN'T GOING TO CHANGE ANY-THING.

BESIDES... WE'RE AN AVENGER. WE CAN'T JUST GO AROUND KILLING PEOPLE.

I PROMISE YOU, WE'LL MAKE THIS RIGHT.

WE BELIEVE YOU, NATASHA.

TUGG

KX

WE GOT WHAT WE CAME FOR.

NOW LET'S GET THIS TO SOMEONE WE ***TRUST.***

TO BE CONTINUED...IN

VENOM WAR!

VENOM WAR

THERE CAN ONLY BE ONE!

VENOM WAR #1

VENOM WAR: SPIDER-MAN #1

CHECKLIST

08/07/24 **VENOM WAR 1**

08/14/24 **VENOM 36**

08/14/24 **VENOM WAR: SPIDER-MAN 1**

08/21/24 **VENOM WAR: CARNAGE 1**

08/21/24 **VENOM WAR: BLACK WIDOW 1**

08/28/24 **VENOM WAR: ZOMBIOTES 1**

09/04/24 **VENOM WAR 2**

09/04/24 **VENOM WAR: SPIDER-MAN 2**

09/11/24 **VENOM 37**

09/11/24 **VENOM WAR: WOLVERINE 1**

09/11/24 **VENOM WAR: CARNAGE 2**

09/18/24 **VENOM WAR: DEADPOOL 1**

09/18/24 **VENOM WAR: BLACK WIDOW 2**

09/18/24 **VENOM WAR: LETHAL PROTECTORS 1**

09/25/24 **VENOM WAR: DAREDEVIL 1**

09/25/24 **VENOM WAR: ZOMBIOTES 2**

10/02/24 **VENOM WAR 3**

10/02/24 **VENOM WAR: SPIDER-MAN 3**

10/09/24 **VENOM 38**

10/09/24 **VENOM WAR: WOLVERINE 2**

10/16/24 **VENOM WAR: DEADPOOL 2**

10/16/24 **VENOM WAR: BLACK WIDOW 3**

10/23/24 **VENOM WAR: CARNAGE 3**

10/23/24 **VENOM WAR: LETHAL PROTECTORS 2**

10/30/24 **VENOM WAR: ZOMBIOTES 3**

10/30/24 **VENOM WAR: FANTASTIC FOUR 1**

11/06/24 **VENOM WAR 4**

11/06/24 **VENOM WAR: SPIDER-MAN 4**

11/13/24 **VENOM 39**

11/13/24 **VENOM WAR: WOLVERINE 3**

11/13/24 **VENOM WAR: DEADPOOL 3**

11/20/24 **VENOM WAR: LETHAL PROTECTORS 3**

11/20/24 **VENOM WAR: IT'S JEFF 1**

11/27/24 **VENOM WAR 5**

NEXT

THE WICKED WEB-SLINGERS WANT YOUR ***BRAINS***-- I MEAN, YOUR ***LETTERS!*** SEND YOUR NOTES TO SPIDEYOFFICE@MARVEL.COM. BE SURE TO MARK THEM "OKAY TO PRINT"!

VENOM WAR

VENOM WAR: VENOMOUS #1

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